

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07
NEA-10 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00
OMB-01 OES-07 HEW-04 MED-02 /152 W
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P R 151336Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9233
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USMTN

ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
SUBJ: QR CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

1. US (NEWKIRK) HELD QR CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRIA
(SEGALLA) ON JULY 14 WITH RESPECT TO US NOTIFICATION
OF AUSTRIAN QRS UNDER THE QR SUBGROUP PROCEDURES. US
EXPLAINED THAT PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS WAS TO EX-
CHANGE INFORMATION ON EXISTING QRS, PARTICULARLY THE
RATIONALE FOR THEIR MAINTENANCE. SEGALLA AGREED WITH
US AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO JOIN WITH
THE US IN SUBMITTING A COMMON REPORT OF THE CONSULTATION
TO THE QR SUBGROUP. SEGALLA CONGRATULATED THE US ON
DISCOVERING THREE OF THE FOUR ITEMS IN CCCN CHAPTERS
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25-99 ON WHICH AUSTRIA STILL MAINTAINS SOME FORM OF TRADE
RESTRICTION. THE FOURTH ITEM, NOT SUBJECT TO US NOTI-
FICATION, IS LIGNITE. DISCUSSION OF THE SPECIFIC NOTI-
FICATIONS IS SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A) PENICILLIN, TRYOFLOICIN, AND MEDICAMENTS: SEGALLA
EXPLAINED THAT FOR REASONS OF AUSTRIA'S POLICY OF POLITI-

CAL NEUTRALITY, AUSTRIA NEEDS TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF PENICILLIN AND OTHER ANTIBIOTICS. FIXED GLOBAL QUOTAS ARE ESTABLISHED ON THESE ITEMS, BUT IMPORTS CAN EXCEED THE QUOTA IF AUTHORIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. WITH RESPECT TO MEDICAMENTS, ONLY THOSE CONTAINING ANTIBIOTICS ARE SUBJECT TO QUOTAS, THE OTHERS BEING PERMITTED FREE ENTRY. ALTHOUGH THE QUOTA FIGURES ARE NOT PUBLISHED ANNUALLY, SEGALLA SAID THAT IMPORTS ACCOUNT FOR A LARGE PORTION OF AUSTRIAN CONSUMPTION. SEGALLA BELIEVES THAT THESE QUOTAS ARE JUSTIFIED UNDER GATT ARTICLE XXI BUT DID NOT HAVE "FIRM INSTRUCTIONS" TO THIS EFFECT.

B) FLYING MACHINES: UNDER THE TERMS OF THE 1955 STATE TREATY RECONSTITUTING A FREE AND INDEPENDENT AUSTRIA, AUSTRIA AGREED NOT TO PURCHASE AIRPLANES OF GERMAN OR JAPANESE CONSTRUCTION. THEREFORE, AN AUTOMATIC LICENSING REQUIREMENT IS IN EFFECT FOR AIRCRAFT FROM ALL SOURCES IN ORDER TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TREATY. ACCORDING TO SEGALLA, THIS REQUIREMENT IS TO MEET AUSTRIAN INTERNATIONAL TREATY OBLIGATIONS, BUT HE COULD NOT POINT TO A SPECIFIC GATT ARTICLE FOR JUSTIFICATION. MCNAMARA

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Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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